

We claim:

1. A method of providing streaming content, the method comprising:
 - (a) receiving an information stream containing content;
 - (b) creating a first burst containing a first portion of the content;
 - (c) creating a second burst containing a second portion of the content; and
 - (d) encoding in the first burst a first relative time period between a transmission of the first burst and a transmission of the second burst.
2. The method of claim 1, further including:
 - (e) transmitting the first burst to a transmission medium; and
 - (f) transmitting the second burst to the transmission medium at a time determined by the first relative time period.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the bandwidth of the first burst corresponds to a maximum bandwidth of a channel of the transmission medium.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the bandwidth of the first burst is less than a maximum bandwidth of a channel of the transmission medium.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein the bandwidth of the first burst corresponds to a maximum bandwidth of the transmission medium.
6. The method of claim 1, further including:
 - (e) encoding in the second burst a second relative time period between a transmission of the second burst and a transmission of a third burst that contains a portion of the content.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein (d) further includes encoding a duration of the first burst in the first burst.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first time period encoded in (d) is encoded in a multiprotocol encapsulation frame.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the first time period encoded in (d) is encoded in an Internet protocol packet.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the first time period encoded in (d) is encoded in digital video broadcast modulation data.

11. A method of processing bursts of content data received at a terminal, the method comprising:

- (a) receiving a first burst of content;
- (b) extracting from the first burst a first relative time period until a transmission of a second burst of content; and
- (c) after (a), removing power from at least a portion of the mobile terminal for a time period less than the first relative time period.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least a portion of the mobile terminal comprises a receiving module.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the receiving module comprises a packet filter.

14. The method of claim 11, further including:

- (d) after (c), providing power to the at least a portion of the mobile terminal and receiving a second burst of content; and
- (e) after (d), removing power from the at least a portion of the mobile terminal for the time period less than the first relative time period.

15. The method of claim 14, further including:

(f) creating a content stream from the content contained in the first burst and the second burst.

16. The method of claim 11, further including:

(d) after (c), providing power to the at least a portion of the mobile terminal and receiving a second burst of content;

(e) extracting from the second burst a second relative time period until a transmission of a third burst of content; and

(f) after (d), removing power from the at least a portion of the mobile terminal for a time period less than the second relative time period.

17. The method of claim 16, further including:

(g) creating a content stream from the content contained in the first burst and the second burst.

18. The method of claim 11, wherein (b) comprises extracting the first relative time period from a multiprotocol encapsulation frame.

19. The method of claim 11, wherein (b) comprises extracting the first relative time period from an Internet protocol packet.

20. The method of claim 11, wherein (b) comprises extracting the first relative time period from digital video broadcast modulation data.

21. A mobile terminal that processes bursts of content, at least some of the bursts of content include relative time periods, the mobile terminal comprising:

a receiving module that receives bursts of content;

an extraction module configured to extract relative time periods from the bursts of content; and

a power management module that removes power from at least the receiving module for power off time periods that correspond to the relative time periods.

22. The mobile terminal of claim 21, further including a time source coupled to the power management module and that provides relative time information to the power management module.

23. The mobile terminal of claim 22, further including a buffer that stores the bursts of content.

24. The mobile terminal of claim 23, further including a processor that creates a continuous content stream from the bursts of content.

25. The mobile terminal of claim 21, wherein the extraction module extracts the relative time periods from multiprotocol encapsulation frames.

26. The mobile terminal of claim 21, wherein the extraction module extracts the relative time periods from Internet protocol packets.

27. The mobile terminal of claim 21, wherein the extraction module extracts the relative time periods from digital video broadcast modulation data.

28. A mobile terminal that processes bursts of content, at least some of the bursts of content include relative time data indicating a relative time between bursts, the mobile terminal comprising:

a means for receiving bursts of content;

a means for extracting relative time periods from the bursts of content; and

a means for removing power from at least the means for receiving for power off time periods that correspond to the relative time periods.

29. A receiver that processes bursts of content, at least some of the bursts of content include relative time periods, the video receiver comprising:

- a receiving module that receives bursts of content;
- an extraction module configured to extract relative time periods from the bursts of content; and
- a power management module that removes power from at least the receiving module for power off time periods that correspond to the relative time periods.